

JAN - 6 2010

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**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

**THE HONORABLE BANKRUPTCY JUDGE
BURTON R. LIFLAND**

SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION
CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,

v.

BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT
SECURITIES LLC,

Defendant,

In re:

BERNARD L. MADOFF,

Debtor.

Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (BRL)

SIPA Liquidation

(Substantively Consolidated)

WRITTEN OPPOSITION TO THE TRUSTEE'S DETERMINATION IN OUR CLAIM

We had indirectly invested in BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT SECURITIES LLC (hereinafter: "**BLMIS**") a sum of \$100,000, all of which was lost, with no offsetting gains, due to the BLMIS Ponzi scheme (the "**Lost Funds**").

1. The Investment Vehicle:

1.1 The Lost Funds were invested in units of Herald Fund.

2. The Investment Holding:

The lost funds were held in an account with Hyposwiss Bank (Zurich).

See documents enclosed as **Exhibit 'A'** to this Opposition

3. The Investments

Using the funds in the Hyposwiss Investor Account, we purchased the units in Herald fund on 28.09.04 and additional units on 24.12.04. We have never received any of our money back.

4. **Our Claim:**

Due to the reasons detailed above, we had filed a claim with regard to our Investment with the Trustee (hereinafter: "**the Claim**").

5. **The Trustee Had Erred In Deciding That We Are Not A "Customer" of BLMIS Under SIPA:**

In his decision dated December 8, 2009, received by us on December 16, 2009, or thereabouts, the Trustee had denied the Claim finding that we did not have an account with BLMIS and thus are not considered a "customer" of BLMIS as this term is defined at 15 U.S.C. § 78/// (2).

With all due respect, the Trustee's said decision is erroneous in all of its aspects, as we shall demonstrate below.

A. BLMIS is directly liable towards us under the law of Torts:

The first major flaw in the Trustee's decision is that the denial of our Claim cannot be based solely on the finding whether we are a "Customer" of BLMIS as this term is defined at 15 U.S.C. § 78/// (2) or not.

Regardless of the finding of whether we are a "Customer" of BLMIS or not, BLMIS is still liable towards us due to the fact that it had fraudulently extracted monies from us through criminal offense.

At the outset we had invested in BLMIS based on false representations that the monies were to be invested in what we believed to be a lawful and legitimate investment fund.

As it had *ex-post* been discovered, the monies were extracted within the framework of an elaborate Ponzi scheme.

Accordingly, we, as all other investors in BLMIS, fell victim to fraud, and thus had sustained damages due to tort in the full amount of our Investment.

The fact that we had executed our Investment through a "feeder fund" is irrelevant. The "feeder fund" had served as a mere pipeline for our investment in BLMIS, and it was clear at the outset to all parties involved, including BLMIS, that our Investment, as all investments in BLMIS through the various existing investment vehicles, was indeed an investment in BLMIS.

Moreover, it was explicitly known to BLMIS that its criminal behavior will lead to damages, which we will directly and personally sustain, regardless of the investment vehicle.

Accordingly, BLMIS had a duty of care, as well as fiduciary duties towards us, irrespective of our investment vehicle.

Its fraudulent and criminal conduct left no doubt whatsoever that BLMIS had been in blatant breach of its said duties, *inter alia*, towards us.

Accordingly, and solely in light of the reasons detailed above, the Honorable Court is requested to find that the Trustee had erred in his decision to deny our Claim.

B. We are a "Customer" as this term is defined at 15 U.S.C. § 78/// (2):

Without derogating from the above we shall further argue that the Trustee had erroneously found that we are not a "Customer", as this term is defined at 15 U.S.C. § 78/// (2).

Indeed we had invested in BLMIS through a "feeder fund". However, the "feeder fund" had served as a mere pipeline for our investment in BLMIS, and it was clear at the outset to all parties involved, including BLMIS, that our Investment, as all investments in BLMIS through the various existing investment vehicles, was indeed an investment in BLMIS.

It is inappropriate and unjustified to treat the Investment any differently than any other investment in BLMIS, merely on the basis of the vehicle through which it had been executed.

Ultimately, BLMIS received numerous investments through a wide variety of vehicles, instituted in order to allow various portfolio managers to invest therein.

All of the said investments have two basic and fundamental facts in common, as follows:

- a) All had been performed knowingly in BLMIS, regardless of the vehicle;
- b) All were victimized by Mr. Madoff's Ponzi scheme.

These facts negate the possibility that the investment vehicle be the only reason that two identical investments in BLMIS be treated differently.

Moreover, the language of 15 U.S.C. § 78/// (2) clearly supports our understanding that we indeed are a "Customer" of BLMIS under SIPA.

In 15 U.S.C. § 78/// (2) it is stated that *"any person (including any person with whom the debtor deals as principal or agent) who has a claim on account of securities received, acquired, or held by the debtor in the ordinary course of its business as a broker or dealer from or for the securities accounts of such person for safekeeping, with a view to sale, to cover consummated sales, pursuant to purchases, as collateral security, or for purposes of effecting transfer. The term "customer" includes any person who has a claim against the debtor arising out of sales or conversions of such securities, and any person who has deposited cash with the debtor for the purpose of purchasing securities..."*.

In the matter at hand, we had clearly deposited cash with BLMIS for the purpose of purchasing securities. The fact that BLMIS had misused the money it had received does not derogate from the said definition (it could only reinforce our Claim against it).

It is further clear that in the matter at hand the monies we had deposited with BLMIS were invested therein in its regular course of business, for safekeeping, with a view to sale / purchase / transfer.

Accordingly, and solely in light of the reasons detailed in this chapter above, the Honorable Court is requested to find that the Trustee had erred in his decision to deny our Claim.

C. We Do Have An Account With BLMIS:

Without derogating from the above we shall further argue that the Trustee erred in finding that we do not have an account with BLMIS.

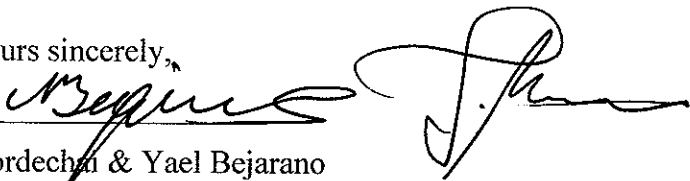
As detailed within the framework of the Claim as well as within this Opposition above, the investment vehicle through which we had invested in BLMIS, has explicitly an account with BLMIS. Fairfield's BLMIS account numbers are 1-FN012-3-0; 1-FN045-3-0; 1-FN-069-4-0; and 1-FN-070-4-0.

Accordingly, and solely in light of the reasons detailed in this chapter above, the Honorable Court is requested to find that the Trustee had erred in his decision to deny our Claim.

D. Preservation of Rights:

Without derogating from the above and due to reasons of legal caution alone we shall further argue that in the event that despite the above the Honorable Court finds that the Trustee had not erred in interpreting 15 U.S.C. § 78/// (2) and implementing it to the matter at hand (a position which is in itself denied), this Opposition is filed in order to preserve our rights until the letter of 15 U.S.C. § 78/// (2) is reinterpreted or broadened in a manner that recognizes us as "customers" of BLMIS.

Yours sincerely,


Mordechai & Yael Bejarano

CC:

Mr. Irving H. Picard
BLMIS Trustee

